GENERAL AND MOONSHINER

Drawing by Armand Both

BY ROY NORTON





HERE was nothing whatever about the General that was mysterious, and if anyone suffered from curiosity he would enlighten him—in his own good time; for he was not a man to be forced into anything. Yet, to the simple dwellers of the high hills up there on the cone of New Jersey, he was a figure of incomprehensibility. There was nothing about the moonshiner that was not as open as a book, apparently; yet he dwelt in that lovely wilderness for many years, preserving all his secrets under that assumption of frankness. The General came and

went all within a year, and passed from the lives of those who had come to know and admire him. And any scholar of history or biography could know all about him. The moonshiner, who was so frank and open, lived there for twenty years; yet not a dozen knew whence he came, or whither he fared.

So, inasmuch as most of this story is true, and in Berlin you can learn all about the General, and down in the Treasury archives at Washington the wise explorer may learn much about the moonshiner, and as both have stepped across the ultimate border, it is fitting that this tale should be added to the record. There are some wise old men, living up there in that beautiful wilderness that still exists, where lakes lie like jewels set in gorgeous greens, who may perchance read these lines as they nod and doze beside their firesides, and will draw conclusions, and smile; but of this be sure, the names of the General and the moonshiner are not true.

The Franco-Prussian War was still fresh in the minds of the world when the General arrived. He stormed and fumed somewhat because the stage that was to convey him and his belongings and his servants from the railway up to the quaint old tavern that still dwells serenely by the shore of the lake, was late. It came at last, and was driven, recklessly rattling, by a young German who flushed to the roots of his blond hair until the tan of his face was accentuated. He came to a halt there by the little, bewhittled, weather-stained station, jerked his fat horses to a standstill, heaved himself into the road, squared his shoulders, and stood at a fine salute.

The General smiled at him grimly, in a way he had, the smile seeming to have nothing whatever to do with his face and coming solely from the steady gray eyes. He acknowledged the salute stiffly, and gave a twitch as if the slight movement of his arm caused him pain.

"You are from the Fatherland?" he asked in his good, wholesome Prussian.

"From Sachsen-Meiningen, Herr General."

"Umph!" grunted the General, and then shouted to his followers, who were

regarded by the driver with much interest.

Were there ever such servants? Soldiers they were, -soldiers all, some of them with scars, one or two with Schläger cuts crisscrossing their faces, and one, evidently the most confidential servant, with not only numerous scars and marks of the corps brave, but with snow-white hair. They laid hands upon the General and hoisted him into the stage, grunting a little under this effort, passed canes and crutches in after him, ran madly to and fro to collect his baggage, and acted in all ways as if it were a duty bestowed by right upon a great hero. The driver's astonishment was increased when, as the last piece of baggage was bestowed, they saluted and stood at attention in the road.

"Drive on!" ordered the General. And then, "Halt!"

The fat horses, which had drowsily leaned into their collars, required no second invitation to resume somnolence.

"Wolsbach," grunted the General, "you too can ride. Mount!"

Wolsbach, the white-haired, scarred man, "mounted," and the wagon started with the five other men dutifully trudging behind, when trudging was possible, then trotting at the double when the fat horses trotted down a hill to avoid putting any weight to the breeching. As they turned in toward the tavern, nestling, as it now nestles, beneath the great trees, this strange convoy of servants walked faster, as if to pass the stage and be on hand to receive so distinguished and grumpy a man as the Herr General Friedrich von Bentz. The few loungers on the veranda were highly amused by the three stiff-legged, spatting, goose steps, and the stiff-armed salute of this advance squad as it passed the creaking and ancient vehicle. Still further were they interested by that quick, machinelike formation into line and salute as the stage stopped before the low and hospitable veranda, hanging over and sheltering the wide, low, and hospitable doors.

His men hoisted the General out. The hand of some nervous one slipped, the General was lowered rather roughly, and those who understood German fled with fingers to their ears. He fired volleys, salvos, broadsides, of expletives as if engaged in a battle where it had become necessary to rally or drive his troops. They assisted him inside, and to a chair in the taproom. A sign, speckled and faded, announced that here might be found cool bottles of an ancient and famous Münchener brew, and the General's face lighted, wreathed itself into lines of satisfaction, and he forgot further to admonish any of his staff for delinquency. The General spoke. Wolsbach jumped; likewise he obeyed a command. The General paused after a moment's ecstasy, and held high a thick glass as if enraptured by the foam. He smacked his lips. His retainers watched him attentively and enviously. He smacked his lips again. His men, still panting and perspiring from their road work, choked, and some of them thrust dry tongues between dry lips and threatened tears. The General drained the remainder of that Münchener Brau and scowled officially at the landlord.

"You are from Bayern?" he growled as if accusing the host.

"Yes. From München, Herr General."

"Ach, Gott! Now I feel at home!" asserted the General, and without calling for any assistance reached for his crutches, permitted Wolsbach to lift him to his feet, and away to his rooms. Until his back was turned his retainers stood at salute; then they broke over one another to test the truth of the faded sign.

And so came the General to the tavern by the lake.

A DISTINGUISHED man was he. It leaked out little by little from those grim veterans who guarded him, those men who had faced, stolidly, the ripping, valiant French guns, and harried the borders of Paris itself in the end. Distinguished? Had he not, suffering from his wounds, been sent by the good old "Unser Fritz" himself, together with this guard, picked chosen men, to seek strange lands and recuperate? Had not two other grim old veterans, Bismarck and Von Moltke, in person, gravely saluted him goodby and Auf Wiedersehen as the big ship sailed away from Hamburg's busy wharf? Was it possible that there lived one so stupid as this host of the tavern, who had not heard of all this? Of the cavalry charge at Sedan? "Donnerwetter! Was ein Esel-Schafskopf!"

It became known also that the veteran General, suffering from old wounds, was to travel in this new land, to observe, and to learn its people, and that his stay on the lake, while unlimited, or to be as he desired, would probably be no more than a month. But, mark you,—and this always with an air of challenge,—the Herr

General could go or come as he wished, or tarry as long as he liked. A hero knows no chains. His leave was indefinite. And always this was announced that no one might suspect for an instant that so great a man need

fear any rules or conventions.

Being a man of regularity and orderliness and routine, the General arranged his household. Wolsbach was his personal attendant, refusing to permit a common hired valet to bring the hot water, to shave the hero, to assist him down the creaking oak stairs, and religiously he stood behind the chair when the General gobbled his food. One must regret to write that of such a fine old man; but certain truths must be observed lest those wise old men by the fireplaces enter denial. The General gobbled his breakfast invariably, as if there were but three minutes between him and a battle. The gobbling began at exactly six-forty-seven o'clock A. M. At exactly seven o'clock A. M., and entirely heedless of those who might be watching in this foreign land, six men, soldierly and earnest, stood at parade on the ground in front of the piazza. At exactly that minute there would appear on the steps a white-haired, stern-faced old man, who would lay his crutches on a chair, cling to a post, and shout in his native tongue, "The report, please!" Briskly the whitehaired veteran Wolsbach would announce that all was well; that the past orders had been executed; that the health of the company continued excellent; after which he stood at salute.

"Then the day's orders will be that all save the Sergeant Wolsbach shall go fishing." The General would issue his orders for the day, with that lurking, humorous smile in his eyes, and Wolsbach, perfectly serious and soldierly, would take two brisk steps forward, two to the right, 'bout face, and repeat the order in a loud voice; then, 'bout face, two steps to the left, two steps to the rear, and salute, from parade head. Always

they shouted:

"Long live the Kaiser, the Fatherland, and the Herr General Friedrich von Bentz!" The last with a hoarse

yell, and then parade was dismissed.

It never varied from that formula, save when winter came, and then the men were ordered to skate, to coast, to walk ten miles, or whatever other occupation the whimsical mind of the General might invent. It never varied in time. Clocks might have been set by it, had there been any wandering or irresponsible clocks in the hills in those early '70's. Discipline!

Also it came to be known that the General had not desired so large a following; but that it had been forced upon him by the redoubtable man of iron, who believed in impressing a nice little country like the United States of America by so imposing a show of men. At seven-fifteen the General could be found at ease. Wolsbach lovingly, nay reverently, filled a huge meerschaum pipe, whose cords were of Prussian colors in silk, whose fine plate of gold named its donors, whose stem of cherry was in joints, and sometimes the General's mind wavered as to just the number of joints he wished in that stem. Then it would be, "One more, Wolsbach," or "Himmel! Was ist los? One less stem, Wolsbach!" After which he would puff leisurely, while smoke curled like incense from that huge bowl, fragrant, soothing, obscuring.

And so began the recuperation of General Fritz.

THERE is an island in that lake, lifting its center like a spearhead from the heart of a great buckler of green, and from its shores may be seen the vast and noble range of hills, swarming topsyturvy round the lake. Splendid trees guard it as if they loved it, changing costume with the season, ranging their fashions from the tender green of spring to the brilliant reds of autumn and the staid, unfurbelowed thinness of winter. And on this island, unattended by servant, dwelt old Henry Roth, as he was known to all, even as well as was the island known as Roths Island. The island has outlasted them all,-from the Delaware Indians who once camped upon it, to the grim veteran, and the frank old German. A clubhouse defames it now, where in summer nights one may hear the sounds of violins, and the laughter of young voices, and catch through the rays of the moon young maidens and young men in yachting suits or immaculate evening garb.

All the countryside knew Heinrich Roth, the lovable and courteous old magnate who had been there before and since the American War of Secession. And why not? Was he not the most prosperous man in all the mountains? Was he not the owner of the sugar mill, that stone building down in the gorge, to which came canalboats laden with cane, sweet smelling, and fragrant with the odors of that distant southland? What journeys were suggested by that unfamiliar perfume! What long travels lay between the brakes, the hands of black men, and this Northern spot of enterprise! When the old post tavern had been converted into a mill, after the highway had shifted, and the ancient road over which Washington had dragged his guns had overgrown, men smiled at what they called "Dutch stupidity."

But Roth had prospered. He had bought lands all around, and openly announced that some day he hoped to own every foot that bordered the lake that twisted itself for so many miles back into the feet of the hills. Canalboats crept slowly up through the locks from the tidewater of the New York harbor and discharged the cane. Some of them returned laden with new barrels on which the stamp neatly asserted that within might be found the best cane sugar ever produced. The markets were open for its brown, crystalline purity, and ever the purse of Herr Roth opened to receive the returns, and to swell, and grow stout; but never arro-

THE General had not been at the tavern a week when, from his island, a mile out in the lake, came Herr Roth, one of his numerous men rowing the boat

and bringing it smartly to the log landing pier that stretched out into the quiet waters from the tavern shore. The stout German magnate of lands and sugar mills walked sturdily up the beach, into the taproom, and confronted General Friedrich, who was contentedly finishing the last of a pipe and the last of his forenoon stein. Unlike the few other Germans who had come all the way from New York to talk with the distinguished veteran, Herr Roth displayed no trepidation. Instead he took from his pocket a cardcase, withdrew a card, presented it, and stood waiting. For the first time since his arrival the General got as quickly to his feet as his condition would permit and saluted. He started to speak; but old Heinrich Roth held up a delicately restraining hand, and those in the taproom, the proprietor and the cellar man, observed in his motion a new and polished grace.

"My name is Herr Roth," said the visitor, and the General again saluted and his eyes twinkled.

"Herr Roth," he repeated, and the cellar man scratched his head, tugged at his leather apron, and went out nonplussed, at the same time that the host caught himself staring open mouthed, and, to amend his seeming curiosity, closed his mouth, looked at his queer array of queer bottles, and merely wondered what

could have been on the card.

The General and his fellow countryman wandered out to the porch, with Wolsbach's aid, and talked interestedly for a long time. Then the sugar mill owner went back to his boat and rowed away. On the next day the Herr General repaid the visit. And that was the first of many; for it began to be customary for the veteran to have himself rowed across to the island on mild evenings, and his men had this new task to employ their late hours. Discipline, so far as evening duties and taps were concerned, went to the dogs, because the General sometimes kept late hours, excitedly playing penuchle or chess until one or two o'clock in the morning. But one thing in all this relaxation was certain, that he would be sure to return in time for the morning parade. That, at least, never failed. His stay extended beyond the month. Wolsbach confided to his fellows, in "Barracks," as they called their rooms, that it was because the chess and penuchle games were tied, and that neither Herr Roth nor the General might declare himself the victor; that these two queer old men would sit and play silently at the chessboard for hours, or bang their poor, suffering, unoffending knuckles on the table at penuchle, and then sit and almost quarrel over

the points of the game they had played.
"You melded one hundred and fifty, then led from the jack—paugh!" Or, "It was such a foolishness to advance queen to knight's second, when by castling you could have won the game!" and so on, until they would forget this desperate warfare and salute each other good-night. The General frequently asked his advice, Wolsbach asserted, swelling his ponderous chest and giving an extra upward twist to his mustaches, and then sometimes that faithful little corps of veterans would shriek with laughter and shout, "Asking his advice—his! Haha-ha!" And Wolsbach would lose his temper and offer to fight one or all of them. "We have swords!" he would declare heatedly. "What, am I, Johann Wolsbach, Sergeant of his Majesty's First Uhlans, who have participated in a thousand battles, to be laughed at by such as thou? No! Zehn Tausend Teufel! No!"

After which, satisfied, they would calm him adroitly, and with none but kindly intent; for quite well they

knew his valor.

In due course, as month after month slipped away into time's archives, the General so far regained his health as to be able to hobble around without crutches; using, instead, Wolsbach and a cane. In a few months more he discarded Wolsbach as a staff, and then the cane also was left behind as he trudged over the neigh boring mountain paths. His arm seemed no better, and was still quite helpless and painful when he made a trip to Washington.

EVERYONE in the hills, who had come to know and like this old warrior, was astonished, amazed, stupefied, by the news that came through the newspapers. There was no disputing it! The President of the United States had received and entertained General Friedrich as a distinguished guest! The official representative of the Fatherland had conducted the meeting, with all his diplomatic staff respectfully bringing up the rear. The veteran appeared in a gorgeous uniform, resplendent with medals in such imposing numbers that it required the full breadth of his great chest, the points of his huge, square shoulders, and the upper part of his portly abdomen to display them all. Wolsbach and the guard also were on hand in splendid uniforms, and there was not a man of them that did not have medals of his own, particularly Wolsbach. The illustrated weeklies had pictures of them; so it could not be denied. There were stories of entertainment in Washington, pictures of the President shaking hands with the General, pictures of the New York and Hoboken turnvereins and schützencorps with gay uniforms giving him and his men a banquet in New York, and all sorts of interesting

And then, after it was all over, the General returned to the lake one placid spring evening, as unpretentious as ever, with his men appearing just as modest in civilian's garb, and Wolsbach grumbling and twisting his gray mustache, just as on the day they had departed.

The General was so glad to get back to the tavern that he shook hands with everybody, from the proprietor down to the cellar man, and even condescended to chuck the table maid under the chin. The honors done him seemed in no wise to have changed him. He laughed and chuckled as of old, smoked his prodigious pipe with the same gusto, and on the very first night hurried across to the island to visit his crony, Herr Roth.

"You had seven hundred and eleven games," he roared immediately after his greeting, "and I had seven hundred and twelve."

'But in the last you had luck, not skill. You melded a hundred aces," was the hot retort, and so at it they

They did not pause to discuss the notable visit to Washington, and the Herr General slyly forgot to mention that he had notified the German War Office that he was improved, but believed it best that he remain for some indefinite further time to get the use of his right arm, which, perhaps, the War Office remembered, had been shattered by three balls in the charge in front of the stone church at Mars-la-Tour. The arm appeared to work fairly well now-at penuchle! Otherwise it was painful.

IT was well enough to shake a fist one night over a disputed point, and, because the General was a trifle out of sorts, the game ended early, and in a huff the veteran and Wolsbach took their departure. The stars and the moon were behind clouds that scurried across the sky in a little summer thunder shower, for all the world like tantalizing shutters, permitting the moon to break through and shine now and then, only to shut the world into blacker darkness after each interval. The lake was as still and unruffled as ever lake may be.

"Donnerwetter, Wolsbach! That Herr Roth is a great crank!" asserted the General, as he dropped comfortably into the boat. "He makes me angry. Row me around a little so I can cool off."

And Wolsbach, wordless, obeyed. They headed down toward the point that thrust its wooded tongue out into the waters, and then back across toward the rear of the island. Wolsbach was almost drifting when they heard

a noise, and he paused to listen.

"P-s-s-s-s-st!" said the General. "What was that?"

They held their breathing, better to listen. There was a soft splashing in the water, repeated at intervals, and approaching. The moon came out just in time to disclose a huge, bargelike boat, manfully oared by four men of the night, who looked like phantoms of blackness with brawny, bare arms, sweeping down toward them. Silently this barge passed them. Quickly the moon was again veiled, and the mysterious travelers of the night, on the unfrequented lake, were lost to sight.

Wolsbach and the General turned homeward, wondering a trifle over this strange encounter, then dismiss-

ing it from mind.

THE day's orders are," said the General at parade the next morning, with his dry twinkle, "that the troops shall march to the sugar mill below the lake and shall there study the process of making cane sugar, after which they shall return to their quarters and have lib-

erty for the remainder of the day. Parade is dismissed!"

Led by Wolsbach, the "troops" trudged away to the
mill owned by Heinrich Roth, taking the four-mile tramp with military precision. It was interesting to report to the good old Prussian, who laughed at their arrival and told them to help themselves. The sweet odor of the cane being unloaded from the canalboats that drew up into the reach of the little pond back of the mill door, the rumble of the mill as it ground out its thick brown succulence, the conversation with some of the workmen, men of their own tongue, the strange, bared strength of the negroes, all made this day's orders a pleasant excursion. They laughed uproariously at little incidents, like boys out for a lark and easily amused.

They almost doubled over when, in loading a boat with the big hogsheads bearing the stencil telling that its contents were "New Orleans Number One," or "Number Two," one of the awkward receptacles broke loose from its sling, smashed downward, struck a stone post, and burst its stakes. A barrel popped out, bright and new, and lay on the wharf. A barrel within a hogshead seemed amusing. The negroes scowled at them, and they chaffed the dusky men in their own tongue, until they had rolled the barrel back out of sight in the dim recesses of the sugar storehouse. Then they were truculent when one of the negroes, a huge man from Martinique, asked them if they spoke French, and on being assured that they did promptly told them to get away from that loading pier and mind their own business. Herr Roth came fussing up, perturbed, in time to apologize for his man, and led them away to display other curious parts of the old plant.

They skylarked homeward until in sight of the tavern, when they came stiffly to order and sedately marched to their quarters, where they were punctiliously dismissed for the day; but the memory lingered, and General Friedrich smiled when, apparently asleep on the veranda, he overheard them laughing over the barrel incidents.

"My children are happy," he said with a sigh; "but some day soon we must leave it all. Just a few months

The parting was nearer than he predicted.

T was on a lowering threatening night in early summer, that the spirit of youth, the spirit of the corps student, the joyish spirit of prankishness, invaded the General as, rowed by the faithful Wolsbach, he crossed the lake to play the thousandth game. It impelled him to play a joke. He startled the Sergeant by laughing aloud at its inception.

Tonight, Wolsbach," he said, "as it is so dark that a man couldn't see his sword six inches from his nose, we will have some fun with Heinrich. Row you round to the other side of the island, and we will enter unannounced and softly through the rear door. We shall surprise the old rascal at his Schnaps! Ha-ha! He

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man. His analytical and logical mind was sorting incidents and arranging them into shortly.

job on this paper."

person I've ever met.' "What is your name?"

"I ask it now."

"Harold Moore." The editor's voice broke a long silence.

"You're Harold Moore," he said slowly,
"Harold Moore! And I told you—you to peddle papers on the street! Boy, how is she? Is she still—"

said. "Will you come down there with me this afternoon?"

"Your sister—she might not like—"

"I think she will like," answered the boy. After a moment he added, "She went with me to get the cow."

"Yes, she is-still," said the younger man

"It's been five years since I last saw Exton "Boy," he said finally, "you can have a and-and your sister. You were away at school then. I am brutal and mean and an "I don't want it," replied the young man. autocrat. But I was not so then, nor was I bitter with disillusions and disappointbitter with disillusions and disappoint-"I don't want to work for you. You are ments—" He walked to the picture that a brutal autocrat, and the most ill mannered hung opposite his desk. "It's Exton River -at sunset-

The younger man came slowly to his side "You did not ask it when I applied for a and slipped his hand through the editor's

> 'It looks just as it did five years ago," he said. "Will you come down there with me

GENERAL AND MOONSHINER

Continued from page 4

we enter like ghosts from Valhalla!"

from the little landing pier, skirted the them.
densely wooded island, and laboriously "Halt!" commander rowed until he was on its farthest side. He you here, and wait!" certain that there was a place to land, for his observations from a distance led him to know that on that side jagged rocks thrust stood with his back against it hand.

General mutter, and, staring round him to that had resounded to their shouts, exultadiscover the cause of the halt, saw thin, tions, altercations, and mirth partook of this

The General cautioned him to silence, and Book of Friendship. they slipped forward again, more cautiously Suddenly they came to a barricade, higher his hand that had never trembled before an than their reach, stretching up into the blackness of the trees. The lights they had seen filtered through the cracks, and, side by side, they peered through one of these. It was as if what they saw held them spell-gain strength.

It was as if what they came to a barricade, higher than their reach, stretching up into the enemy shook as if palsied. The voice that had rever trembled before all the voice that had rever trembled before all that had never trembled before bound and speechless.

INSIDE what seemed to be a considerable lawbreaker!" inclosure of planks, a sort of screen, they saw men working about monstrous shapes. There was another instant's pause, and the voice resumed, with sad censure, as the The men were all negroes, of that black, veteran, old and gray and stiff, took a step enormous, muscular type from the far or two away from the door. Caribbean seas,—men of the type who had been pirates and warriors and poets. Stripped and discipline, and organization!" to the waist they were, and barefooted and He spoke with increasing vehemence, bareheaded. They strove like devils, feed-more coldly, more incisively, as he made his ing the fires under the monstrous shapes, and arraignment, and the gray eyebrows drew the light of springing, angry flames revealed down and frowned fiercely over his steady the perspiration dripping and glistening old gray eyes. across their ebony skins and huge, obedient

carrying logs and branches with which they mocracy made you assume the very name constantly fed the fires. And the flames by which you are known,-you, a man of swirled and glowed round huge kettles, that noble birth for which, from infancy, I catching dull red reflections from their have been taught respect! You, a cousin of rounded copper bellies, wafting outward Kings, in the veins of whose mother flowed now and then to expose a stray wisp of steam the blood royal,—the blood that is supposed that curled angrily upward and dissipated to be filtered through honor lest it carry anyitself in the branches of the brooding trees thing of the ugly, the dishonest, the base! that appeared to hang low over the night Count Von Walthall is a petty thief from the work, as if participants in brewing some evil government that has shielded him, and a paradraft. A strong fragrance of cane crept outward now and then, a fragrance that seemed cepted him as an honest man, -a rogue, a a fitting atmosphere for these black men rascal, a betrayer of honesty! And I have from the mysterious, evil tropics. Sometimes loved him, and called him friend, I who have tary, air-tight can. the flames, sweeping outward, brought into fought for law and honor until my body relief the arms of the stills which appeared to bends beneath the burden of its scars! Ah, writhe and quaver in the shifting light, as God! That one of your blood should come they bent their curved necks downward to to this! That I should come to this, that I barrel and cask to seek the condensing agent loved you! That I cannot go back to my of cold water pumped from the placid lake Kaiser and tell him, that fine old man, that that lay behind, still and innocent, under the I met you, and that you have done well! shielding night sky.

crack, felt steady, harsh fingers laid on his be uttered without a blush!" arm. Obediently he followed their direction, as the General turned and hastened tried to assume that dignity for which he rear door of Heinrich Roth's home. Wols- slowly, like one stricken, into his chair,

will jump into the air in astonishment when way,—the dim light that came from the shaded lamp in that hospitable room where Wolsbach, smiling in the darkness, di- on so many nights the toy game of war and rected the boat carefully and quietly away the jocular turn of the cards had entertained

"Halt!" commanded the General. "Stand

his observations from a distance led him to know that on that side jagged rocks thrust sharp noses upward like monsters rising from the depths; but the water was still, and therefore there was no fear of the surf.

The spoke, stepped finder, closed it, and stood with his back against it, harshly scowling at the old Prussian, who, startled, indignant, had half risen to face him. The chessand therefore there was no fear of the surf.

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His arm, the one honorably crippled at

"And so—and so," it said, "you—my friend, the man I had learned to love, are a

"A living lie, are you," he went on with scorn, "a man under a false name! You told They worked noiselessly and persistently, me that private reasons and a love of dehave been taught respect! You, a cousin of site on the glorious country that has ac-That I can never again speak your name, or, Wolsbach, peering wide-eyed through the if compelled to do so, that the words cannot

For a moment, as he spoke, Herr Roth less carefully away from the barricade, out had been known throughout the mountainaround it, and into a path that their feet side; then slowly he withered back under struck, which both knew must lead to the this fierce torrent of denunciation, settled bach heard the General's hand fumbling for lower and lower, all the character lines of his the doorknob, heard it turn, heard the door jolly, finely bred face seaming, and aging, open, and followed in. A light shone from and pleading, until at last he put his hands beneath a crack at the end of the passage- up and bent over into them. He lifted his



blundered, with fool's luck, and grounded side it. From the edge of the lampshade, the boat on a strip of sand. Together these low over the table, Herr Roth looked at him, years, devoted doctors, the woods, with the General, softly chuckling, trance in itself would have meant nothing to world over, have struggled in the lead. Then, abruptly, Wolsbach al- one fortified by innocence; but the stern, to find the way to keep our stopped and held back through the darkness long time they remained thus, each reading babies well. Now at last they know. And you, too, must know, for your own sake and your baby's.

You must know that if you canthan ever, and curious as to what was ahead. Sedan, came painfully up. The fingers of not give your baby your own milk (which is best of all) you must give

> You must know that cow's milk, destined by a wise providence for the four stomachs of a calf, will prove too much for the tiny little "A criminal in the eyes of all that is law, stomach of your baby.

> > You must know that

is the substitute for mother's milk. because it is pure cows' milk with the calf needs modified, and baby needs added-packed in a sani-

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a few points to go, it looks like a run, but the slightest inaccuracy will beat him.

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crippled arm came to the salute.

night, and farewell!" In one brusk move- highlands stood stolid and still. ment the General clicked his heels together, whirled, and threw open the door.

through another door, and into the night. pathetic meaning in its lines. Wolsbach shut the door behind him with machinelike precision.

And that was the last civilian duty atnor at the lake that stretched its wide band noble friend!"

head, and wet his dry lips, and threw his of sparkling water out to the shores of the arms wide. One hand struck the chessboard, island on which so many times, contented, and its kings and queens, its castles and he had stepped. He was only an old, old knights, its bishops and pawns, all went clat- man, scarred and battered, staring downtering to the floor as if they, fighting pieces ward at his clasped fingers from eyes that all, had crumbled into disorganization and were filled with a great melancholy. The disgrace. He had not time to speak his plea. stage rattled slowly away, and after it The grim old figure before him had straight- trudged that guard of men picked from the ened rigidly, as if it had its defined and un- ranks of war because their service had been deviating code to carry out to the end. The true and worthy. The old tavern appeared to look after them with regret, and the "Count Von Walthall, I bid you good- mountains and wide-flung beauty of the

N the musty archives of the Treasury Department, if it was filed there, and unless SERGEANT WOLSBACH!" he called. it has crumbled, as has the old mill for these "Forward! We go now!" and led the way many years, might be found this strange across the room that had meant so much to letter. It is what is sometimes called by the him in his convalescence, out through the quiet, cynical, capable men of the departdoor into its spacious old hallway, out ment a "conscience letter," and it carries a

"The writer of this," it reads, "was once a gentleman. Wanderlust, adventure, and "The boat? Shall I bring the boat?" he avarice proved the undoing of his soul. For asked quietly, as befits a man who has heard some years he conducted an illicit still, and a tragedy, approved of his superior's action, fattened therefrom. The truth was told him and has already buried it forever in his mind. at last by one brave enough to speak the "We will take one of the boats at the truth, and so, repentant, he remits herewith dock," was the General's gruff reply. "You in gold of the country that fostered him all will attend to having it returned tomorrow." that was legally due. A search for the distillery will disclose nothing; for it has been tended to by Sergeant Wolsbach in those destroyed. The men who worked it are gone mountains; for the parade orders on the fol- to the places whence they came. The boats lowing morning were peremptory and brief. that carried its product to its market are General Friedrich von Bentz had decided scuttled and lie beneath the waters of a to depart immediately. The rattling old lake. And the gentlemen who read this, and stage drew up to the doorway, and he clam- accept this conscience fund, may know that bered in, unassisted. As it drove away he the malefactor, guilty and sore at heart, relooked neither to the right nor the left, at turning to his own land for all time, has paid the high hills on one side that he had loved, the price; for he has lost a valiant and a

BURIED PUNS

BY WILLIAM S. WALSH

soberest essays would sometimes hide away to be known as Hawthorne's corner. a jest for the delectation of specially discern-ing readers. Thus in a review of Richard manuscript of "The Marble Faun," known a jest for the delectation of specially discern-Grant White's edition of Shakespeare, Lowell remarked incidentally:

clined to apply the quadrisyllabic name of graph, it is worth a tremendous sum. the brother of Agis, King of Sparta.

Professor Felton of Harvard, we are told, THERE is a story told about Sydney was the first to remember or discover that Smith that represents him as carrying

of Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Our Old Home," willingly assisted his brethren in that neigh-opaque only because he purposely seeks borhood in their clerical duties. On one octo conceal every clue to the fact that a pun casion he dined with the incumbent on the is buried beneath the surface.

ences." Speaking of the lights and shadows being conspicuous by his loud enjoyment of of the Consul's office at Liverpool, where he the visitor's jokes. was stationed during the presidency of Franklin Pierce, Hawthorne dwells with said Sydney Smith at parting; "but you special pleasure on the visits of a young must not laugh at my sermon tomorrow.' English friend, "a scholar and literary amateur, between whom and myself there sprang tween here and a church!" remarked the up an affectionate and, I trust, not transi- Squire, a little tartly, perhaps.

tory regard." This friend used to come and sit or stand by the Hawthorne fireside, "talking vivaciously and eloquently" upon literature and life and the difference between American of the pulpit, apparently suffering from a and English characteristics, "with such severe cold, with his handkerchief to his kindly endurance of the many rough repub-licanisms wherewith I assailed him, and "Kershaw!" several times in various intona-such frank and amiable assertion of all sorts tions. This ingenious assumption of the of English prejudices and mistakes, that I readiness with which a man would recognize understood his countrymen infinitely the his own name in sounds unintelligible to the for his sake. It would gratify my cherished the congregation. The minister, after lookremembrance of this dear friend if I could ing at him with stern reproach, proceeded manage without offending him, or letting with his discourse and won the bet. the public know it, to introduce his name upon my page. Bright was the illumination of my dusky little apartment as often as he made his appearance there."

Hawthorne has deftly accomplished his pur- then a canon at Saint Paul's Cathedral: pose. It does not occur to him that Bright. the apparent adjective that so cunningly begins a sentence and therefore achieves the right to a capital initial, maybe alternatively pit," was the reply. read as a proper noun.

Henry A. Bright was, in fact, Hawthorne's went to Saint Paul's. only intimate friend in Liverpool. He was a man of wealth and position in that town, a dilettante who had published for his own ful fit of sneezing. amusement a botanical manual, "The English Flower Garden." With Hawthorne he sounded in Sir Archie, Archie!" was how it sounded in Sir Archibald's ears, and he would frequently call upon the local bookcould not help a sudden laugh of recognition.

HORACE E. SCUDDER, in some remiseller, Henry Young, making use of a little niscences of James Russell Lowell, nook in the rear of the shop to examine and pointed out that the poet-critic even in his discuss the recent publications. This came

in England as "Transformation." Bright had it richly bound, and it remains one of "To every commentator who has wantonly the valued possessions of his descendants; tampered with the text or obscured it with as indeed it might well be in more senses his inky cloud of paraphrase we feel in- than one. Considered merely as an auto-

the name of Agis's brother was Eudamidas. a concealed pun into the pulpit with him. The most familiar version is that which A MORE opaque mystification is con- Lord Houghton used to tell. When settled tained in a passage in the first chapter at his small living in Yorkshire, Sidney preceding Saturday. The evening passed in The chapter is headed "Consular Experigreat hilarity, the Squire, Kershaw by name,

"I am very glad that I have amused you,"

"I should hope I know the difference be-

I'm not so sure of that. "I'll bet you a guinea on it!" "Take you!" said the divine.

Next day the preacher ascended the steps better for him, and was almost prepared to ears of others proved accurate. The poor love the intensest Englishman of them all Souire burst into a guffaw, to the scandal of

A NOTHER version makes the victim of Sydney's jest a certain Sir Archibald Macdonald, equerry to the Duke of Sussex. The casual reader never suspects that Sir Archibald said to the prelate, who was

> "I will come some Sunday to hear you preach." "If you do, I shall name you from the pul-

Undaunted by this threat, Sir Archibald

Sydney entered the pulpit, looked hard at the Baronet, and was seized with a wonder-







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